

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the non-final Office Action dated April 3, 2007. The Specification has been amended to update the cross references to related application section. Claims 1, 6, 9, 11, 13, 21, 25, 31, 44, 50, and 81 have been amended. No new matter has been added by these amendments. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Two-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith. Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Two-Month Extension of Time and any fees due in connection with this Response.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1 to 3 and 7 to 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,882,261 to Adams ("*Adams I*"). The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 4, 6, 25 to 33, 35 to 59, and 62 to 94 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,823,874 to Adams ("*Adams II*"). Applicants respectfully disagree with and traverse these rejections for at least the reasons stated below.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants' respectfully note that the Office Action Summary rejected Claim 5, but the Detailed Action did not specifically address Claim 5. For purposes of this Response, Applicants' assume the Office Action intended to reject Claim 5 over *Adams I* or *Adams II* and have accordingly addressed Claim 5 as such.

Independent Claim 1 is generally directed to a gaming device including, among other elements, a processor programmed to operate with the display device to display a plurality of player-selectable digit positions and to enable a player to select one of the digit positions.

Amended independent Claim 25 is generally directed to a gaming device including, among other elements, a plurality of player-selectable digit positions, and an award adapted to be provided to the player including a plurality of digits associated with the digit positions selected by the player.

Independent Claim 81 is generally directed to a gaming device including, among other elements, a processor programmed to operate with the display device to display a

plurality of player-selectable digit positions and enable a player to select an order of the digit positions.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither *Adams I* nor *Adams II* anticipate: (a) a processor programmed to operate with a display device to display a plurality of player-selectable digit positions, (b) a plurality of player-selectable digit positions, (c) a processor programmed to operate with the display device to enable a player to select one of the digit positions, (d) a processor programmed to operate with the display device to enable a player to select an order of the digit positions, or (e) an award adapted to be provided to a player including a plurality of digits associated with the digit positions selected by the player. Furthermore, it is unclear by the cited sections of *Adams I* and *Adams II* what the Examiner is arguing.

Independent Claim 13 is generally directed to a gaming device including, among other elements, a plurality of symbols wherein the symbols include a plurality of digits, a plurality of selections wherein one of a plurality of digits is associated with each selection, and a processor programmed to display a plurality of digit positions, enable a player to pick a number of symbols, and enable a player to associate each of the symbols with one of the digit positions.

Applicants respectfully submit that *Adams I* does not anticipate a processor programmed to enable a player to pick a number of symbols and enable a player to associate each of the symbols with a digit position. Furthermore, it is unclear by the cited sections of *Adams I* what the Examiner is arguing.

Independent Claim 50 has been amended to further distinguish over the prior art. Amended independent Claim 50 is generally directed to a gaming device including, among other elements, a plurality of selectable digit positions, a display device configured to display an original award, wherein the order of the digits displays a value of an award.

Independent Claim 31 has been amended to further distinguish over the prior art. Amended independent Claim 31 is generally directed to a gaming device including,

among other elements, a moveable mechanical display including a plurality of different modification methods, an indicator operable to move to indicate one of the modification methods, a display device configured to display, wherein the order of the digits displays a value of the original award, and a modified award including a modification of the digits of the original award based on the modification method indicated by the indicator.

The Office Action cites column 4, lines 46 to 59 of *Adams II* for disclosure of a mechanical display device including a plurality of modification methods. Applicants respectfully disagree. The cited disclosure of *Adams II* refers to a SPIN THE WHEEL button actuatable when the primary gaming unit has selected one of a plurality of predetermined indicia sets. The SPIN THE WHEEL button does not provide a plurality of different modification methods and an indicator operable to indicate one of the modification methods. The different modification methods are described in the Applicants' specification as modifying the individual digits and the original award in different ways.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submits that independent Claims 1, 13, 25, 31, 50, and 81 are patentably distinguished over *Adams I* and *Adams II* and in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 to 12, 14 to 24, 26 to 30, 32 to 49, 51 to 80, and 83 to 94 depend directly or indirectly from independent Claims 1, 13, 25, 35, 50 and 81 and are also allowable for the reasons given with respect to amended independent Claims 1, 13, 25, 35, 50 and 81 and because of the additional features recited in these claims.

The Office Action rejected Claims 34, 35, 60 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Adams II*. Applicants respectfully submit the patentability of independent claims 31 and 50 render this rejection moot.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and in the absence of more pertinent art such action is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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